

June 2010

HF Happenings 408

SARL Youth Day Sprint 16 June
World QRP Day 17 June
SARL Top Band QSO Party 17 - 20
June
SARL Digital Contest 27 June



Has Your Club, or Have You Made Arrangements to Promote Amateur Radio to the Youth on 16 June 2010

Clubs and individual radio amateurs are encouraged to set up stations in public areas like shopping malls to celebrate Youth Day 2010. It is a great opportunity to demonstrate amateur radio as the greatest of all scientific hobbies and a great primer to encourage young people to take up careers in electronics and communications.

In last week's SARL News, Gerhard Coetzee, ZS3TG, said that with the World Cup in full swing and schools on holiday, Radio Amateurs have a unique opportunity to celebrate youth day on 16 June with the SARL Sprint and give South Africa's young people a taste of Amateur Radio and hands-on experience.

There are many prizes to be won during the sprint as well as lucky draw prizes for all who submit a log with a minimum of 10 entries.

Clubs setting up stations are requested to send details to [armi\[at\]sarl.org.za](mailto:armi[at]sarl.org.za) for inclusion in media releases to be handled by the SARL PIO Network. Full details of the event are available on www.sarl.org.za from the home page click on youth activity.

Individual radio amateurs are invited to adopt young people for the day and invite them into the shack to operate under your supervision.

French QSL Mystery Resolved

Earlier this year, a consignment of QSL parcels destined for overseas Bureau's, including one for France, were dispatched. Shortly after that, South African Radio Amateurs started receiving cards destined for France back in the mail. The mystery has now been resolved and the Post office taken to task.

After dispatch, the Post Office went on strike and during this strike period it appeared that one of the QSL parcels was "broken open" by one or more strikers possibly looking for valuables. Now the French Bureau took the trouble to return the empty parcel to us, which proved that the SARL QSL Bureau's suspicion was correct.

We sincerely apologise for the negligence displayed by the Postal authorities. We are awaiting a response from the Post Office.

The QSL bureau has already made changes in the packaging material which will make it more difficult for parcels to be opened without some major effort. The QSL bureau has unfortunately no control over employees of the Post Office breaking parcels to check for valuables - which appears to be a common complaint!



New Zealand's Radio Spectrum Management Cites Radio Amateur for Transmitting 3 100 W

Last month, New Zealand's Radio Spectrum Management (RSM), - the equivalent of the FCC and ICASA - charged and fined Alan Potter, ZL3II, of Christchurch, for transmitting outside the terms and conditions of the General User Radio License for Amateur Radio Operators. Potter was charged in the Christchurch District Court on April 14 and found guilty of breaching Section 113 of the Radiocommunications Act 1989. Section 113 deals with those who "commit an offence under this Act who transmit radio waves."

Potter was found in possession of radio transmitting equipment that was capable of operating at a significantly higher power than the Amateur Radio Operators General License allows. He was fined \$1750 (\$1164 USD) and \$130 (\$86 USD) for costs. Potter was also required to forfeit his radio equipment. Section 114 of the Radiocommunications Act of 1989 references Section 113 and presumes that "any person who erects, constructs, establishes, maintains or is in possession of any radio transmitter is presumed to have used the radio transmitter."

According to news reports, RSM was alerted to a video that Potter posted on YouTube (the video has since been removed), showing showed his transmitter operating at 3 100 W. Operating at such high transmitting power is likely to cause interference to, and disruption of, a range of other licensed radio services in the local area.

New Zealand amateurs are restricted to no more than 500 W PEP.

Read more at <http://www.arrl.org/news/new-zealand-radio-spectrum-management-cites-ham-for-transmitting-3100-w>.

E-mail Changes

At 10:21 on Friday 7 May 2010, I sent out the following message via the HF Happenings mailing list - "Please take note that the e-mail address hfcontests@netactive.co.za has been discontinued with immediate effect.

Logs for contests hosted by the Bloemfontein RAC must be sent to zs4bfn@netactive.co.za.

Mail for the SARL Contest Manager can be sent to contest@sarl.org.za

Please inform you club members."

When you receive an e-mail on the HF Happenings mailing list, please read it before deleting it, not the other way round!

June 2010

1 - 11 ZS10WCS operated by the members of PEARS ARC
12 - 21 ZS10WCS operated by Rietkol ARC
22/6 - 1/7 ZS10WCS operated by Northern Cape ARC

2 closing date SARL 80 m Club CW contest
4 International Day of innocent Children
5 World Environmental Day
7 Closing date ZS4 logs
9 Schools Close
11 World Cup Soccer starts
14 World Blood Donor Day
15 World Awareness Day of Abuse of Older People
16 Youth Day; SARL Youth Day Sprint
17 World QRP Day
17 - 20 SARL 160 metre QSO Party
20 Father's Day
20/6 - 8/7 Grahamstown Festival
21 Winter Solstice
25 - 27 Ham Radio, Friedrichshafen
26 - 27 ARRL Field Day
27 SARL Digital Contest

July 14

2 - 12 ZS10WCS operated by East Rand ARC

1 closing date Youth Day logs
3 Durban July; Wimbledon Ladies Final
4 Wimbledon Men's Final
6 closing date Top Band logs
10 - 11 IARU HF Championships
12 closing date Digital contest logs
13 Schools open

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Radio Technology in Action

The first Radio Technology in Action symposium took place on Saturday 29 May at the School of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering, Howard College Campus of the University of KwaZulu Natal in Durban. I enjoyed the various presentations and have learnt something more about our fascinating hobby.

I had hoped to meet many radio amateurs from the ZS5 call area and some of the club chairmen, but I was not so lucky!

The next RTA is scheduled for Saturday 24 July 2010 at the Belville campus of the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

What is on the programme for the RTA?

85 Years of SARL - just how far has amateur radio progressed? A look back how the technologies of yesteryear has set the pace for today's new developments.

Understanding Digital Signal Processing. What is DSP and how can it be used to improve the quality of audio signals and deal with interference. Details of a DSP construction kit will be discussed and a kit will be available for purchase (only at the RTA). Speaker - John Willescroft, ZS6EF.

Square Kilometre Array (SKA) update. How will the SKA be protected from radio interference and how will the services to the people in the Astronomy Exclusion Zone be delivered? Speaker - Adrian Tiplady, SKF Project office

A new generation of South African student satellites. The presentation will include an overview of the Satellite Engineering Programme at CPUT and the supporting academic coursework curriculum before concentrating on a detailed technical discussion about the proposed satellite project's payloads and subsystems. Speaker - Francois Visser, CPUT.

Hermanus Magnetic Observatory - South Africa's Space Physics Facility: Present and Future. The presentation will highlight the current research and technological advances being made at the HMO, present some of the current and future infrastructure under the responsibility of the HMO, and share the strategy for the future. Special emphasis will be placed on the link between HMO and Amateur Radio, and the benefits that are available through this link. Speaker - Dr Lee-Anne McKinnell, ZS2LAW.

Direction Finding. Get the youth involved in this fascinating activity. Circuits and construction will be discussed. Speaker - John Willescroft, ZS6EF.

D-STAR taking off in USA and Europe but Africa? Learn more about this digital mode, and get a hands-on experience. Speaker - Deon Swanepoel, ZS5DD.

DXCC News

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports that the following operations are approved for DXCC credit.

3B8EME - Mauritius Island; 2010 Operation

9UPVI/9U1P - Burundi 2010 Operation

9U2T - Burundi; 2010 Operation

9X0CW - Rwanda; 2010 Operation

9X0LX - Rwanda; 2010 Operation

YI9HOC - Iraq; 2009 Operation

If you had QSOs rejected for any of these operations send an E-mail to dxcc@arrl.org to be placed on the list to update your DXCC record.

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Information on Phased Verticals?

Do you need information on Phased Verticals? Go to the MFJ web site - under 18HT vertical they have a supplement for phasing verticals - it is quite old 40 years old - but excellent. Visit <http://www.hammanuals.com/MMans/AV-18HT.pdf> [N1EA]

African DX

3C9B and 3C0C DXpedition. Dates have been announced for the upcoming Bioko Island (AF-010), Equatorial Guinea, and Annobon Island (AF-039) DXpedition. Two Spanish operators will man both operations. Operators mentioned are Elmo, EA5BYP, (SSB and RTTY) and Javi, EA5KM, (CW and SSB). The team is expected to leave Thursday 3 June, for Bioko Island, and be on the air the next day as 3C9B. Activity will last until 7 June. They state, "We will spend as much time as possible on the radio. There we will pick up our supplies to live on the island of Annobon for 14 days." The operators also mention that (edited) "they have undertaken a great effort, both physical and financial, in preparing this DXpedition, but unfortunately, for reasons beyond our control, we have been unable to go in April." Look for activity to be on 160 - 6 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. The team states (edited), "We know the importance of an activation on 160 m from the island of Annobon."

Suggested frequencies are - CW - 1830 (Asia/Oceania RX 1820 - 1825), 1832 (Europe RX 1835 - 1840 and North/South America 1833 - 1835), 3524, 7024, 10115, 14024, 18071, 21024, 24892, 28024 and 50104 kHz; SSB - 1850, 3790, 7065/7165, 14195, 18140, 21275, 24940, 28475 and 50140 kHz; RTTY - 3582, 7038, 10140, 14082, 18102, 21082, 24922 and 28082 kHz

The team will have three HF stations, but will only have two stations on the air. Antennas to be used are - Spiderbeam 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 m, 80 metre vertical, 160 metre Inverted L, Cushcraft 5 element yagi on 6 m and SteppIR (80 - 6 m). They will also use beverages and K9AY for RX on the lower bands. During their operation from Annobon Island, they will not have an InterNet connection, so the logs will be published after their DXpedition. QSL via EA7FTR.

For more details and updates on the 3C0C and 3C9B DXpeditions, visit the web page at <http://www.3c0c-annobon.com>

Botswana, A2. Charles "Frosty" Frost, K5LBU, will lead another DXpedition to Africa. This time they are going to Botswana, between 20 October and 4 November. Operators mentioned are Scasciafratti, IOZY - A25ZY, Lor, IK1MDF - A25DF, Giannarelli, IZ5MMB, - A25MB, Frosty, K5LBU, - A25CF, Irish, K5ZOL, and Lehman, KD5TAN, - A25AN. They plan to have three stations on the air operating 160-6 meters, depending on conditions. The group will also be in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (30 and 31 October) using the call sign A25HQ. Each operator, using their own call sign, will handle their own QSL cards by the Bureau or direct (QRZ.com address). QSL for A25HQ go via K5LBU.

The logs will be uploaded via CLUBLOG daily (depending on the InterNet connection). The group is looking for sponsors. For more details and update, visit their Web page at <http://www.qsl.net/a25-2010/index.html>

Seychelles, S7. Juan Carlos, EA2RC, will be active as S79SAL from Mahe between 17 and 31 July. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau or direct. Added Note: Look for S79SAL to join Marq, CT1BWW/S79BWW, during his first official WFF

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(World Flora Fauna) DXpedition on Seychelles - reference number WFF004. For more details visit the Web site at <http://www.ct1bww.com/s79bww>

Special Event Stations

Belgium, ON44. Members of the "Radio Club de Binche" will activate the special event call sign ON44WAR from La Gleize between 19 and 20 June. The timetable of transmissions will be as follows: at the hour up to the hour and a half, transmissions on CW on 7.025 or 3.560 MHz (Paraser MK VII); at the hour and a half up to the next hour, transmissions on SSB on 7 and 14 MHz. QSL via ON7RY.

England. Dave Oliver, G8YFH, will be operating GB8WOL from the Watercress Line, Ropley Station, Hampshire, UK on 5 and 6 June 2010, this is a WW2 re-enactment on the Watercress Line. Dave will be running a WS19 set on 80 m - 3,615 MHz AM and 7,143 MHz AM +/- QRM. QSL details via <http://www.qrz.com/db/gb8wol>

France, TM6. Arnault, F4GAJ, will use the special call sign TM6OVE between 5 and 19 June. Activity is to commemorate "Operation Overlord" (the code name for the invasion of western Europe during World War II by Allied forces) on 6 June 1944. QSL F4GAJ, direct or by the Bureau. For more information on "Operation Overlord," visit Wikipedia at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Overlord

Club News

The Potchefstroom ARC is planning a Flea Market starting at 10:30 on Saturday 5 June 2020. The venue is the ZERABI Reception Centre located directly adjacent to the N12 highway approximately half-way between Klerksdorp and Potchefstroom.

Admission is free. No table fee will be charged so come and sell your items. Braai facilities, braai packs, hotdogs, refreshments and a cash bar is available. Sleepover facilities are also available. Come and enjoy your self. Contact Stef, ZS6AOK, at 082 773 5297 for more information.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 31 May to 7 June 2010.

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 4 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO;
non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 6 June 2010
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:

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<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

DigiFest

04:00 - 12:00 UTC and 20:00 UTC 5 June to
04:00 UTC and 12:00 - 20:00 UTC 6 June

Mode: RTTY75, BPSK63, MFSK16, HELL-
SCHREIBER, OLIVIA

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: SOAB, All Modes - Low or High;

SOAB, All Modes, 8 Hours - Low or High;

SOAB, Single Mode - Low or High; Single Op

Single Band, All Modes - Low or High; Multi-
Op Single Transmitter

Max power: High: 1 500 watt; Low: 100 watt

Exchange: RST and 4-character grid square

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 QSO point per km between
stations

Multipliers: Each grid square once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults

Submit logs by: 13 June 2010

E-mail logs to:

[digifest_robot\[at\]mixw\[dot\]net](mailto:digifest_robot[at]mixw[dot]net)

Upload log at:

[http://mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/digifest_log.
php](http://mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/digifest_log.php)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/rulese2
010.html](http://www.mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/rulese2010.html)

Wake-Up! QRP Sprint

06:00 - 06:29 UTC; 06:30 - 06:59 UTC;

07:00 - 07:29 UTC; 07:30 - 08:00 UTC 5
June

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 and 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, serial no, suffix of previous
QSO ("QRP" for 1st QSO)

Work stations: Once per band per period

QSO Points: 1 point per km

Multipliers: 1 point per new station worked
on each band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total multiplier points

Submit logs by: 12 June 2010

E-mail logs to: [ru-qrp-club\[at\]mail\[dot\]ru](mailto:ru-qrp-club[at]mail[dot]ru)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://qrp.ru/modules/sections/index.php?o
p=viewarticle&artid=7&page=1](http://qrp.ru/modules/sections/index.php?p=viewarticle&artid=7&page=1)

SEANET Contest

12:00 UTC 5 June to 12:00 UTC 6 June

Mode: CW, Phone, RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op; M/S

Exchange: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: SEANET: Each DXCC country

once per band; non-SEANET: Each SEANET

DXCC country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 July 2010

E-mail logs to: [sh10sea\[at\]163\[dot\]com](mailto:sh10sea[at]163[dot]com)

Mail logs to: SEANET Contest 2010, c/o

BA4EG, mr Zheng Feng, 618-11-602 Huan Lin

Xi Lu, Shanghai 200123, China

Find rules at:

http://seanet.cc/seanet_contest_2010.htm

UKSMG Summer Contest

13:00 UTC 5 June to 13:00 UTC 6 June

Mode: not specified

Bands: 6 m Only

Classes: Single Op - Fixed or Portable; Multi-
Op - Fixed or Portable; QRP; Sprint (last 6
hours); SWL

Exchange: RST, serial no, 6-character grid
square and (optional) UKSMG member no

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 1 July 2010

E-mail logs to: [m5ade\[at\]uksmg\[dot\]org](mailto:m5ade[at]uksmg[dot]org)

Mail logs to: Adrian Deane, M5ADE, 5 Os-
bourne Terrace, London Rd, Thrupp Stroud,
Glos., GL5 2BJ, UK

Find rules at:

<http://www.uksmg.org/page.php?5>

RSGB National Field Day

15:00 UTC 5 June to 15:00 UTC 6 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

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Classes: Open; Restricted; Low Power
Max operating hours: Open/Restricted: 24 hours; Low Power: 12 hours
Max power: non-LP: 100 watt; LP: 10 watt
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with fixed EU stations; 3 points per QSO with fixed non-EU stations; 4 points per QSO with portable/mobile EU stations; 6 points per QSO with portable/mobile non-EU stations; Double QSO points on 160 and 10 m
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 21 June 2010
Upload log at:
<http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
Mail logs to: RSGB G3UFY, 77 Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7AF, England
Find rules at:
<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2010/rnfd.shtml>

IARU Region 1 CW Field Day
15:00 UTC 5 June to 14:59 UTC 6 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: (see your national society rules)
Exchange: RST and serial no
Submit logs by: 30 June 2010
E-mail logs to: (see your national society rules)
Mail logs to: Your national society
Find rules at: Your national society web site

Alabama QSO Party
16:00 UTC 5 June to 04:00 UTC 6 June
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; M/S - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; M/M - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Mobile Single Op

- CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Mobile Single Op and Driver - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Mobile Multi-Op - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Rover Single Op - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Rover M/S - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High; Rover M/M - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, Low or High;
Max power: HP: >150 watt; LP: 150 watt; QRP: 5 watt
Exchange: AL: RS(T) and County; non-AL: RS(T) and state, province or "DX"
QSO Points: 1 points per phone QSO; 2 points per CW QSO
Multipliers: AL Stations: Each state, VE province/territory once per mode; non-AL Stations: Each AL county once per mode
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 5 July 2010
E-mail logs to:
[logs\[at\]alabamagsoparty\[dot\]org](mailto:logs[at]alabamagsoparty[dot]org)
Mail logs to: Jim Johnson, KC4HW, 6274 South CR 49, Slocumb, AL 36375-5528, USA
Find rules at:
<http://www.alabamagsoparty.org/2010/2010Rules.pdf>

RSGB 80 m Data Club Championship
19:00 - 20:30 UTC 7 June
Mode: RTTY, PSK
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 14 June 2010
Upload log at:
<http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2010/r80mcc.shtml>

Next Week's Contests

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 8 June
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 9 June

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CWops Mini-CWT Test, 11:00 - 12:00 UTC; 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 June and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 10 June
NCCC Sprint Ladder , 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 11 June
Bill Windle QSO Party, 00:00 - 23:59 UTC 12 June
Portugal Day Contest, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 12 June
VK Shires Contest, 06:00 UTC 12 June to 06:00 UTC 13 June
VK/Trans-Tasman 160 m Phone Contest, 08:00 - 14:00 UTC 12 June
DRCG Long Distance RTTY Contest, 08:00 - 15:59 UTC 12 June; 00:00 - 07:59 UTC and 16:00 - 23:59 UTC 13 June
Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint, 11:00 - 13:00 UTC 12 June
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest, 15:00 UTC 12 June to 15:00 UTC 13 June
REF DDFM 6 m Contest, 16:00 UTC 12 June to 16:00 UTC 13 June
ARRL June VHF QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 12 June to 03:00 UTC 14 June
BARTG Sprint 75, 20:00 - 23:59 UTC 12 June
SKCC Weekend Sprint, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 13 June
WAB 50 MHz Phone, 09:00 - 15:00 UTC 13 June

This week in History

The week starting Monday 31 May 2010

1783 - Montgolfier brothers made first balloon ascent to 1 500 feet in a 10 minute flight
1784 - First woman balloonist, Elisabeth Thible of Lyon, flies to 8 500 feet in 45 minutes
1869 - Thomas Edison of Boston, MA, patents the electric voting machine
1880 - First public telephone booths set up in New Haven, CT, USA
1882 - Electric flatiron, (electric iron), patented by HW Seely, NY, USA
1896 - Marconi files a British patent for his radio apparatus
1896 - Henry Ford trials his Ford automobile around the streets of Detroit, MI. USA
1897 - A. Slaby and Count Arco, carry out the first German wireless transmissions in Berlin
1898 - First paid wireless telegram sent from Needles, Isle of Wight, UK
1910 - The Cape Province, Orange Free State, Transvaal and Natal become the Union of South Africa
1928 - Kingsford-Smith commences the first trans Pacific flight
1942 - Three Japanese midget subs raid Sydney Harbour
1961 - The Union of South Africa becomes the Republic of South Africa

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslite, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

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